

*The Iowa Numismatic Association
Established in 1938*

The Iowa Collector

Official Publication of the
Iowa Numismatic Association



In This Issue

World Coins and the U.S. Mint

By B.J. Searls

Spring & Summer 2012

Volume 53 Number 2

<http://ina.anacclubs.org/>

<http://ina.anacclubs.org/>





**74th Annual
IOWA
NUMISMATIC
ASSOCIATION'S
COIN SHOW & CONVENTION**

OCTOBER 27TH & 28TH, 2012

SATURDAY 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

SUNDAY 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

IOWA CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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HWY 169 N of Business 20

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For Information:

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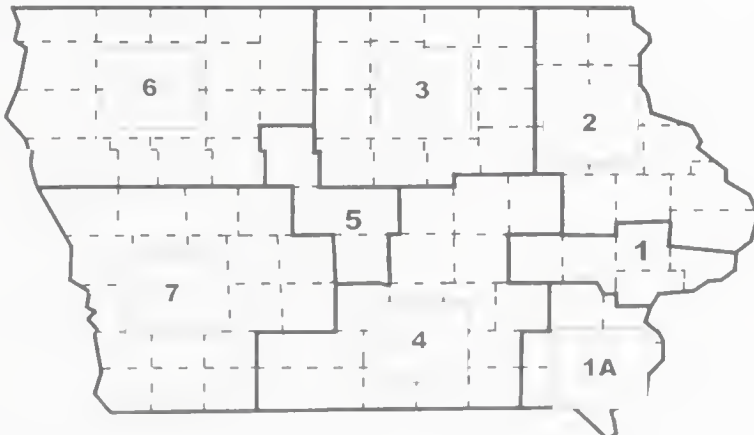


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Regional Districts



The Iowa Numismatic Association

OFFICERS

President.....	Chris Seuntjens 3427 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, IA 50310 (515) 251-4031 chris@christophersjewelry.com
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Established 1938

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LEGAL ADVISOR

Open

EDITOR: THE IOWA COLLECTOR

Paul Heinen PO Box 71233, Clive IA50325-0233
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From the Editor

Would you like to see news of your club's activities covered in *The Iowa Collector*? The editor welcomes news of club happenings in the *Iowa Numismatic Associations* region. Send any information on your upcoming coin show, election of new officers and other club news and articles, prepared by club members, to the Editor. Include any photographs with your article, to make your story more interesting.

Send to: Editor, *The Iowa Collector*

PO Box 71233

Clive, Iowa 50325-0233

jmcul2@hotmail.com

Presidents Message

Chris Seuntjens



Dear Fellow Numismatists:

Spring is here and Iowa numismatics is blooming! I have been to several shows since the last Collector was published and they were all very active. I saw lots of collectors with want lists which is always a good sign the coin market is very healthy. A big thank you to all the hard work the coin club members have put forth to make their shows successful and fun.

We lost a great friend in Dave Vaughn from Cedar Rapids earlier this year. Dave owned CR Collectibles in Cedar Rapids for many years as well as a long term member of the Cedar Rapids Coin Club. He was the chairman of the annual Cedar Rapids Coin Show and was responsible for managing a great annual show that was always well attended and run very well. Dave was a great friend and fellow numismatist and will be greatly missed.

The INA board of directors has decided to move forward with building a new INA website. While still in the early stages, we believe this new site will add a lot of class to the organization as well as be more informative and attractive to potential new members. Hopefully this new site will be up and running before the INA convention October 27 and 28 at the Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge. The Fort Dodge Coin Club is hosting this years' convention so you know it will be a great show. So mark your calendars to attend – you won't be disappointed.

The "Gold for Members" membership drive is still going on so sign up as many new members as you can. Our goal is 100 new members to be signed up from October 2010 to the INA Convention this year. As of this writing we're still short so keep the drive alive!

I hope you all have a great summer and I hope to see you soon.



From the Secretaries Desk

Beverly Ashton



Hello from Fort Dodge. It really is hard to believe that so much time has gone by. I really don't know where the time has gone. Here it is May 1st summer is around the corner and I'm not ready. But then what else is new? It has been great seeing everyone at the shows so far this year, I think they've been really good shows!

This year is election time for a new INA board. Nominations can be sent directly to me, we really need any and all input from membership. If you feel so moved to help us out yourself as a board member or if you know of someone else who would be an asset to our board, please get those sent to me ASAP. Ballots will be going out around August so we can have them back before the INA Convention in Fort Dodge Oct. 27-28, 2012.

I will be getting this years dues notices out fairly soon, please don't think that you as a member have been forgetful, it is just me being slow!

Can you believe the bullion market? It is impossible to figure out what is going on from day to day. As I am writing this silver is around \$31 and gold is around \$1664. I guess it's like the rest of the economy, nobody knows what is going on with any of it.

See you at the shows.

Beverly Ashton - INA Secretary/Treasurer

INA BOARD AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATES

The INA officers hold three board meetings each year and one open membership meeting. These meetings are held in conjunction with a coin show. The annual board meeting is held during the INA's Annual Coin Show & Convention which is hosted by a different Coin Club each year. The INA's officers board meeting is held the evening of the first day of the INA coin show and the open membership meeting is conducted on the morning of the second day of the INA coin show.

Regular INA Board meetings:

February 25, 2012 at Coin-a-Rama, Nevada, Iowa

July 8, 2012 at Central Iowa Coin & Stamp Expo, Altoona, Iowa

October 27, 2012 at Annual INA Coin Show, Altoona, Iowa

October 28, 2012 Open membership meeting, Altoona, Iowa

President Chris Seuntjens called the meeting to order. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurers's report was given with a balance of \$11,182.66 in the general fund and \$193.61 in the ICTA fund. Don McCulloch moved that we accept the treasurer's report, John Jackson seconded and the report was approved. There was a question on the cost for the returned collectors. Bev explained that a lot of those were for people temporarily away (as the Post Office like to likes them). The Post Office will only hold first class mail.

Sam Ashton gave an update on the 2012 INA show in Fort Dodge by giving an updated budget. Dean Parr could do a seminar on world paper money. Tom Robertson asked about the possibility of having a Token Collector's meeting. These are all good suggestions that Sam will take back to Fort Dodge.

Will Iowa City have the 75th show in 2013? Tom has been checking into all sorts of options and will us know by the July show if they will be able to do this. Denny proposed we look into the possibility. Don McCulloch seconded and it passed.

Denny Ross was reinstated as Director as he will not be moving at this time.

John Jackson mentioned finding out if we have any life members listed who are no longer living.

Chris reported that we should probably have the web site redesigned possibly by some professionals. After much discussion it was suggested that Chris, Tim, and Levi could work on this. John proposed, Chris seconded and it was approved that we use donated funds to get this going. Bev reminded the board that nominations for the next board election are needed ASAP!

Denny motioned that we adjourn. Tom seconded and we adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Ashton

INA Secretary/Treasurer

Members present: Sam Ashton, Denny Ross, John Jackson, Dean Parr, Don McCulloch, Chris Seuntjens, Tim Shuck, Rusty Crawford, Tom Robertson, Paul Heinen, Dave Stark, & Bev Ashton

Financial Statement**October 9, 2011 -February 25, 2012**

Starting Balance INA	INA Regular	ICTA Fund
Regular	10,785.60	442.86
Receipts	378.00	
Dues	40.00	
Ads	3.89	Interest .75
Interest		
	1,210.54	
INA Show Profit	<u>1,632.43</u>	<u>1.15</u>
Expenses		ICTA Dues 250.00
Collector Printing (1)	579.00	
Collector mailing	138.00	
Postage- Extra copies	12.00	
Postage	112.61	
Sales tax	50.19	
	891.80	
Postage - Returned Collectors	18.57	250.00
INA Seminar giveaways	140.00	
George Shook memorial	25.00	193.61
CSNS dues	10.00	
State Historical Society of IA	<u>150.00</u>	
	1235.37	193.61
Current Balance	11,182.66	
Checking	8,823.77	
Savings	2,318.89	<u>193.61</u>
Cash	40.00	
	<u>11,182.66</u>	

INA Bylaws

The Bylaws can be viewed on the INA website: <http://ina.anaclubs.org/>
A white copy , of the bylaws, can be obtained by contacting INA
Secretary Beverly Ashton, 615 Central Avenue, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.

From the Editors Desk

Hello everyone!

I hope that you enjoy reading this issue of the Iowa Collector. As some of you know, I have been collecting coins off and on for over 25 years and with each year I learn more and more about our hobby and the business that fuels our hobby.

There are a plethora of ways to buy coins; on the internet, at shows, at your local brick and mortar stores, from collector to collector, and through auctions. Each has its advantages and disadvantages but I think each has its own important place in our hobby.

When reading through this issue please consider the advertisers. They are proudly supporting the INA by visiting them you, too, support the INA. I have included two articles in this issue that I hope you will enjoy. One talks about the coins that our US Mint has produced for other countries and the second article talks about a fascinating error coin that is very controversial.

Lastly this is our annual call for nominations for members of the INA board. If you or someone you know might be interested, consider a nomination. This is an excellent opportunity to give back to an association that has served its members for many years; and with everyone's participation the INA will be around for many more years to come.

All my best to all of you - Paul Heinen

***Iowa Numismatic Association
74th Annual Show And Convention
Sponsored by the Fort Dodge Coin Club
October 27th & 28th 2012***

~

***Iowa Central Community College
Fort Dodge, IA***

SEMINAR SPEAKERS

- Tom Robertson (319) 351-2512 tdrobby@yahoo.com
Programs on - Seated Liberty series; ½ dime, dimes, quarters Half dollars & seated dollars. Barber series; dimes, quarters & half dollars. ½ cents, large cents, two cents, silver three cents & nickel three cents. Clubs & Organizations.
- Dale Dye (319) 351-3006
Programs on - Shields nickels, Liberty nickels, Buffalo nickels.
- Brian Fanton (319) 294-4377
Programs on - Grading, Boy and Girl Scout merit badges programs Slabbing, The 'Art of coin collecting 'and general numismatic topics.
- Ron Burns (319) 447-0996 coinguy39@hotmail.com
Program on - The History of coinage 'Ancients thru colonials.
- Dean Parr (319) 366-0552 drparr@mehsi.com
Programs on - Foreign coins & World paper money.
- Denny Ross (641) 932-2731 sixty2one@iowatelecom.net
Program on - Lincoln cents 1909 thru 1958.
- Lee Roe (563) 852-3517 hilltopcoin@netins.net
Programs on - Buying and selling coin collections. Slabbing.
- Steve Feller.....(319) 393-7052 sfeller@coe.edu
Programs on - POW Scrip, WW II Concentration Camp money, Civil War money. The New Orleans mint, Ancient coins, and other topics.

SHOW COORDINATOR

- John Jackson (712) 276-1366 jjcoin1@cableone.com

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

- Lee Roe (563) 852-3517 hilltopcoin@netins.net

WEBMASTER

- Dean Parr (319) 366-0552 drparr@mehsi.com

When and where Coin Clubs Meet

Ames ----- Last Wednesday, Senior Citizens Center, 7:30 PM Scott Nichols
a (515) 232-9222

Burlington ----- Fourth Tuesday, Burlington Public Library, 210 Court
Street 7:30 PM, Gary Kirby *a* (319) 752-2913

Cedar Rapids ----- Third Wednesday, 7:30 PM, Rockwell Main Plant
Cafeteria, 35th St. N. E., Bob Johnson *a* (319) 573-6652

Clarion - Fourth Thursday, Pizza Ranch on Main St, 7:00 PM, Harry Peters
a (641) 762-3735

Decorah ----- First Tuesday, V. F. W. Building basement, 104 State St 7:30
PM, Dave Sanderson *a* (563) 568-2371

Dubuque ----- First Thursday, Masonic Temple, 12th and Locust St, 7:00 PM
Neil Aitchison *a* (563) 556-5254

Des Moines -- First Tuesday, St. Marks Episcopal Church, 3120 E 24th, 7:00
PM, Roscoe Simmons *a* (515) 262-6008

Fort Dodge ----- Second Thursday, ICCC Career Education Building,
330 Ave M, 7:30 PM, Sam Ashton *a* (515) 573-3033

Grinnell ----- Second Monday, Community Center (Senior Citizens Room)
7:30 PM, George Fowler *a* (641) 236-3549

Hiawatha ----- Fourth Wednesday (except June & July), Hiawatha Library
50 William St. 7:00 PM, Dave Vaughn *a* (319) 366-5463

Irs City (Mt. Pleasant) ---- First Thursday, Bredeaux Pizza, 7:00 PM, Ken
Reynolds *a* (319) 385-3248

Keokuk ----- Third Thursday, Keokuk Public Library, 210 North 5th Street
7:30 PM, Tom Gardener *a* (319) 524-7366

Old Capitol (Iowa City) ----- Second Tuesday, Veteran's Administration
Hospital (Third floor cafeteria), Hwy 6, 7:00 PM Tom Robertson *a*
(319) 351-2512

Oskaloosa --- Second Tuesday, Farm Bureau Building (basement), 7:30 PM
Clarence & Gail McKee *a* (641) 672-2763

Ottumwa - Fourth Tuesday, Albia Road Baptist Church, 1601 Albia Road (Basement), 7:00 PM, Denny Ross (a) (641) 932-2731

Port City (Muscatine) - Fourth Tuesday (No meetings June, July, Aug), Holiday Inn, Muscatine, Hwy 61 & 38, 7:00 PM, Jim Burr (563) 262-9313

Quad City (Moline, IL) - Third Thursday, Garden Center, 5th Ave and 34th Street, 7:00 PM, Jeff Struve (a) (309) 737-0206

Red Oak - Second Thursday, Regency Retirement Center, 6:30 PM, Richard Trinity (a) (712) 829-2207

Siouxland (Sioux City) - First Tuesday, First United Methodist Church, 1915 Nebraska Street, 7:00 PM, John Jackson (a) (712) 274-9195

Storm Lake - Second Tuesday, Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 119 West 6th Street, 7:00 PM, Russ Post (a) (712) 284-2110

Wadena - Third Thursday, Historical Center, West Union, IA, 7:30 PM Dr. James E. Ralls (a) (319) 283-4440

Waterloo/Cedar Falls - Second Tuesday, Waterloo Arts & Recreation Center, First & Commercial Streets, 7:00 PM, Dennis Emme (a) (319) 232-0662

Dear I.N.A. Member

The 2012 year is here. We encourage you to support the I.N.A. with your ad in The Collector. The rates are.

Full Page	\$100.00	Half Page	\$60.00
	Quarter Page	\$30.00	

Ad rates for private shows will be prorated from the normal yearly advertising rates.

Full page ads for INA Coin Clubs are \$10.00. Non INA Coin Clubs are \$25.00.

There are 3 issues of our deluxe publication, with a 4th issue when needed. Anyone would be proud to have their ad in "The Collector". We try to get articles and information for the good of our members. We encourage everyone to write an article concerning numismatic information which might help other collectors, especially our new members.

We must increase the price of our ads to keep up the quality of our publication

Thank you for your sponsorship!

Chris Seuntjens

3427 Merle Hay Rd., Des Moines, IA 50310

THE IOWA COLLECTOR is published 3 time a year
Publication dates: January, May & September

2012 Coin Show Calendar

May 12 Keokuk Coin Show - River City Mall, 300 Main Street, Keokuk, IA
(10-5) Tom Gardener (319) 524-7366

July 8 Central Iowa Coin & Stamp Expo - Adventureland Inn, Altoona, IA
(9-5) Chris Seuntjens (515) 251-4031 or Terry Holdridge (515) 964-1202

Aug 18-19 Iowa Great Lakes Coin Show - Spirit Lake Community Center,
North of Great lakes Mall (9-5) (9-3) Don McCulloch (712) 336-4618

Oct 6-7 Omaha Coin, Card & Collectibles Show- 1st Annual - Ramada Plaza,
Omaha, 72 & Grover ST. (9-5) (9-3) Auction-Saturday night

Oct 27-28 Annual INA Coin Show & Convention - Iowa Central Community
College, Career Education Building, SW Corner of Campus, HWY 169 N of
Business 20; Fort Dodge, IA (9-5) (10-4) Chris Seuntjens (515) 251-4013

Oct 16 Tri-State Coin Show - Diamond Jo Casino, 301 Bell Street, Dubuque,
IA (9-4) Richard Hillard (563) 557-7210

Nov 3 Ottumwa Coin Show - Bridge View Center, 102 Church Street,
Ottumwa, IA (9-4) Denny Ross (641) 932-2731

Nov 10 Keokuk Coin Show - River City Mall, 300 Main Street, Keokuk, IA
(10-5) Tom Gardener (319) 524-7366

Dec 11 Old Capitol Coin Club Show - Clarion Hotel, I-80 & Hwy 1 (exit 246)
Iowa City, IA (9-4) Jeff Morgan (319) 269-2847

Central Iowa Coin and Stamp Expo

Sponsored by the Des Moines Coin Club

July 8, 2012

Adventureland Inn, Altoona, Iowa

Join the Iowa Numismatic Association

Membership

Any Person interested in numismatics, over 18 years of age of good moral character may become a member upon recommendation of the membership committee. Dues are \$10.00 per year.

Object

The object of this corporation shall be to;

Encourage and promote the science of numismatics.

Cultivate fraternal relationships among coin collectors and students.

Foster the interest of youth in the subject.

Encourage and assist new collectors.

Stimulate and advance affiliations between our associations and kindred organizations in the United States and foreign countries.

Acquire and disseminate numismatic knowledge.

Generally represent numismatic interests throughout the State of Iowa.

Junior members

Any person between the ages of 0 and 18 years old and sponsored by a senior member may be considered for junior membership. Junior members may not hold office, but may vote for elective offices. Dues to be \$2.00 year.

Officers

Officers are elected every two years by membership vote, by mail ballot, and take office at the annual convention following election. Officers consist of 16 members, including the President, the First and Second Vice Presidents, the Secretary/Treasurer, the immediate Past-President, and 11 Directors.

The annual membership meeting is held each year at the Iowa Numismatic Associations Annual Convention held in the fall.

The Iowa Collector, the official bulletin, is published three times each year and sent to each member. The I.N.A., upon request, will help the heirs of any member in good standing find a qualified person or persons, in his area, to appraise an estate.

For further information about the I.N.A. contact any member, director or officer. An application has been enclosed with this issue of The Iowa Collector. To join fill it in and send it along with your check to:

Beverly Ashton
615 Central Avenue
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 573-3033

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE IOWA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

I hereby make application for membership in the "IOWA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION", subject to the provisions of its Articles of Incorporation and By-laws.

Send this application together with \$10.00 for the current years dues
Young applicants dues are \$2.00 per year until the age eighteen

Note: The I.N.A. year runs from January 1st to January 1st

Date _____

Applicants Name (please print)

Mailing address

E-mail address _____

Phone # _____

City

State

Zip Code

Date and Year of Birth

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Proposer

I.N.A. or A.N.A. Number

For use of Secretary/Treasurer

NO.

Date Received

In Memoriam



David Lee Vaughn, 69, of Cedar Rapids passed away at the home of his sister in Robins, IA surrounded by family on Monday, December 26, 2011 after a brief battle with cancer. Inurnment took place at 3:00 PM Friday December 30, 2011 at Cedar Memorial Park Cemetery. There was no service, however a moment of silence was shared for those who attended.

David is survived by his father Kenneth Vaughn of Marion; 4 siblings: Jim (Jan) Vaughn and Carol (Sean) Egan, both of Phoenix, Arizona; Richard Vaughn of Las Vegas; and Jacklyn (Andy) Schmidt of Robins, IA; and many nieces and nephews.

For the past 14 years David owned and operated C R Collectables in downtown Cedar Rapids. He was an active member of the coin and stamp clubs. Dave's hobbies included coins, stamps, and fishing. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Dave's family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff of St. Luke's Hospice and Dave's friend Joe, who helped him so much through the years.

Des Moines Coin Club
Coin and Stamp
Expo



July 8, 2012
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Adventureland Inn
I-80 Exit #142
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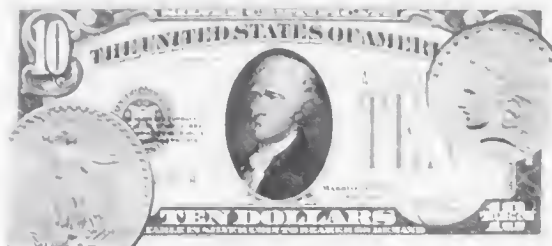
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Terry Holdridge

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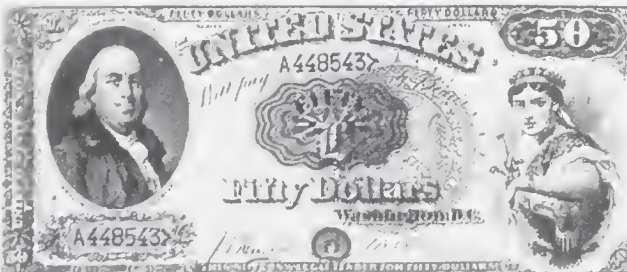
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2395 Tech Drive Suite #10
Bettendorf, IA 52722

Open Tues. - Fri. 10 am - 5 pm
Other days by appointment



Trivia Quiz

1. What modern coins denominations have been produced in 40% silver?

A. Quarter

B. Half Dollar

C. Dollar

D. All of the above

2. Which city has never had a branch mint?

A. Carson City

B. Annapolis

C. Dahlonega

D. Charlotte

The purpose of coin clubs is to bring together those persons interested in the hobby of collecting coins. To encourage active participation in Numismatics. To uphold the principals of fair dealing. To study the history of the world through the art of coin collecting. To provide a meeting place for interested people and to promote good fellowship among its members.



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girc@sgwb.coop



World Coins and the U.S. Mint

Many are not aware that for over 100 years, the U.S. Mint manufactured coins for other countries. The U.S. Mint could be called the "World Mint" during those years. Through December 31, 1973, the Philadelphia, San Francisco, New Orleans and Denver Mints produced 9,416,334,160 coins for 42 foreign countries. These numbers are higher now as it appears that production was ongoing until 1984.*

After the 1980s only one issue was made, the 1000 Silver Kronur Leif Eriksen commemorative for Iceland dated 2000. This coin was struck at the Philadelphia Mint as a two-coin set. The second coin was a commemorative U.S. Silver dollar. While the U.S. Mint has been producing tokens for other countries since the early 1800s, the "official" act which authorized the production of coins for foreign governments was passed on January 29, 1874. It reads as follows:
[January 29, 1874]



Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled. That it shall be lawful for coinage to be executed at the mints

of the United States, for any foreign countries applying for the same, according to the legally prescribed standards and devices of such country, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe; and the charge for the same shall be equal to the expense thereof, including labor, materials, and use of machinery, to be fixed by the Director of the Mint, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury: Provided, That the manufacture of such coin shall not interfere with the required coinage of the United States.

Two years later, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1876, the first world coins were minted for Venezuela. These were the centavo and 2 1/2 centavo of which 10,000,000 and 2,000,000 were produced respectively. Then, except for the 1883 Hawaiian issues, there was a gap in production until 1895 when the Philadelphia Mint produced 5,000,000 20 centavos for Ecuador

From that point until 1984, the U.S. Mint produced world coins nearly every year. Minting world coins was diplomatically and financially a good move for the U.S. Mint, especially during the war years, when some countries experienced severe shortages.

Comparing the Department of the Treasury Bureau of the Mint's report with major world coin catalogues, such as Krause's Standard Catalog of World Coins, the collector will find a number of discrepancies. Prior to 1906, production figures were based on the government's fiscal year, July 1- June 30. Consequently, the dates appearing on the actual product may not correspond to the production report. In addition, a number of issues are not recognized by Krause as U.S.-made and conversely, Krause lists a number of coins as products of the U.S. Mint that are omitted from the report from the Mint.

The diversity of issues produced is astounding and is especially interesting considering that from 1876 to the end of the 20th century, the U.S. Mint was producing limited shapes and denominations with little variance in metal content for our own coinage. World coin metal content included copper, silver, gold, copper-nickel, bronze, brass, zinc, steel, stainless steel, German silver and aluminum.

A variety of shapes were produced like the Belgium Congo hexagonal shaped 2 francs and the scalloped Ethiopian 25 cents. There were holed coins such as the Netherlands East Indies centstukken and the satang of Siam. Both circulation strikes and proofs were produced. Standard issues were struck as well as commemoratives. Sizes varied as well from the smallest coin ever made by the U.S. Mint, the Panama 1904 2-1 2C to the largest (at the time), the Liberia 1973 \$5.



The P, D and S mintmarks of the U.S. Mints appeared on many issues. Although New Orleans did produce coins for foreign countries, the "O" mintmark never appeared. In addition, mintmarks from foreign countries appeared on

some coins. Although not listed in the Mint report, there were varieties, re-strikes, world coins struck on U.S. coin planchets and a number of oddities. Many issues were melted.

For the collector, putting together the set of World Coins Manufactured by Mints of the United States can be an interesting and very challenging endeavor. It provides the collector with a smorgasbord of numismatic treats from over 40 countries. While many of the issues are common there are also some extremely rare issues. The PCGS Set RegistrySM offers a run from 1876 to 1973 and is considered "a work in progress." Later dated issues will be added as the information becomes available. The set, found in the multi-country category, is laid out just like the Mint's report beginning with Argentina and running through Venezuela, with each country in date and denomination order. Collectors who participate are welcome to provide feedback about any issues that may need to be added to or removed from the set.

* At the time this article was written, the author was not able to obtain a copy of any governmental records past 1973 in order to verify later-date statistics.

References:

Domestic and Foreign Coins Manufactured by Mints of the United States 1793-1973, by the Department of the Treasury Bureau of the Mint. 1973.
Foreign Coins Manufactured at US Mints. By Tim Ziebarth. The Willamette Coin Club, Portland, Oregon. March 2006.

By BJ Searls (Reprinted with permission from Collectors Universe - a PCGS Company)



The Mystery of the 1959-D Mule Lincoln Cent

by Jaime Hernandez

In 1959, the U.S. Mint changed the reverse design of the Lincoln cent from a wheat reverse to a new memorial reverse. As a result, all Lincoln cents dated 1959-2008 should have a memorial reverse design.

In 1986, a retired police officer named Leon Baller announced that he bought a 1959-D Lincoln cent with a wheat reverse design. This type of coin is referred to as a "Mule," since all 1959 cents should have a memorial reverse design. Baller claims he purchased the coin for \$1,500.

In 1987, Baller sent the coin to the United States Department of Treasury, and agent Richard M. McDrew responded with a letter (along with his coin) that stated, "Enclosed is your United States 1C coin, dated 1959-D, with a wheat reverse. This coin was microscopically examined by our Forensic Services Division in Washington, D.C. and it is our opinion the coin is genuine." What the letter did not mention was the agent who inspected the coin was actually a currency expert, not a coin expert.

In the following years, the coin was submitted to different grading companies including PCGS in the hope that one of them would label it as authentic. In all cases, the coin was returned without being graded or deemed authentic. Not to mention, it was even speculated that the coin was produced using a spark erosion process. This is a method used to make fake coins.



Years later, Baller sold the coin to Heritage Auctions for an undisclosed amount. Heritage then sold the coin to a collector who then resubmitted it to the Treasury Department in 2002. The Treasury once again returned the coin indicating that after several tests were conducted, they found no evidence that the coin was fake.

The coin then became available in a Goldberg's Auction in September of 2002; however, the coin was suddenly pulled from the auction as convicted forger Mark Hofmann claimed he produced this piece using the spark erosion process. Hofmann had read a column in Coin World discussing the Mule cent and sent a letter to his daughter from prison claiming he had produced the coin. The Secret Service later reported that they found no merit to Hofmann's claim. In February 2003, the coin was then reoffered in a Goldberg's Auction where it sold for \$48,300.

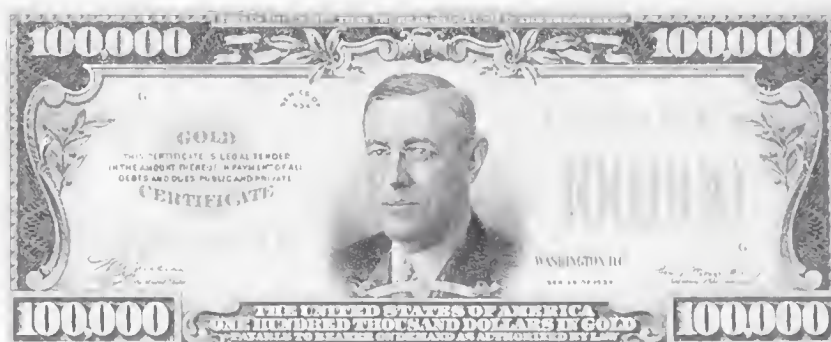
In 2010, the coin reappeared at another Goldberg's Auction, where it sold for \$31,050. The sale description indicated, "This property is not guaranteed to be authentic, and is marketable as it is, cannot be returned."

So, is the coin real or fake? No one really knows for sure. However, it is curious that after 50 years, only one coin is known to exist. The odds of only one coin being discovered after all this time makes it very difficult to imagine, since a coin press operates so fast and usually strikes more than just one coin. If you ask any coin expert who really understands the coin minting process, most will agree that the coin is not an authentic mint-made coin. One thing is for certain, the 1959-D Mule cent is definitely one of the most controversial coins in numismatics.

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Call For Nominations

In accordance with the bylaws of the Iowa Numismatic Association, I hereby make the official call for nominations for the offices of the INA for the years 2012-2013. Any members in good standing may nominate a candidate for the offices of President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary Treasurer and Directors. You may nominate people from your own district to serve as District Directors but no more than two Directors from any one district. In addition, candidates for Director at large may be nominated. Nominations must be mailed no later than July 1, 2012. Ballots will then be mailed to each member of the INA so their vote may be mailed to the Secretary Bev Ashton, 615 Central Ave, Fort Dodge, IA 50501.





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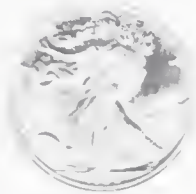
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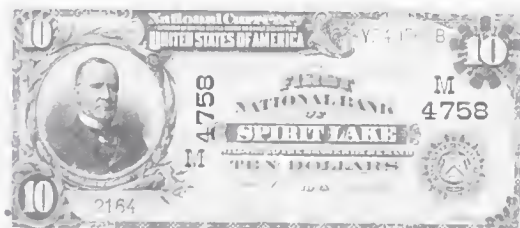
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